

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AS-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DOTE-00

DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /064 W
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R 181420Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1320

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EAID GV CA US

SUBJECT: GUINEAN-CANADIAN RELATIONS

REF: CONAKRY 1666 (NOV 74); CONAKRY 1516 (OCT 74)

1. DELEGATION REPRESENTING CIDA VISITED CONAKRY WEEK OF NOVEMBER 10-15. GUINEAN SOURCE TOLD US PRIOR TO VISIT THAT CANADIANS WERE COMING TO NEGOTIATE AND SIGN AGREEMENT FOR PARTIAL FINANCING OF TRANSGUINEAN RAILROAD. (REFTEL). THIS APPARENTLY NOT CASE AT ALL, AND THOUGH CANADIAN DELEGATIONS NEVER CONTACTED EMBASSY, WE HAVE NOW HEARD FROM GUINEAN/SIDE THAT DISCUSSIONS IN CONAKRY WERE UNPRODUCTIVE AND HAVE LEFT GUINEAN-CANADIAN RELATIONS IN UNCERTAIN STATE.

2. ACCORDING TO GUINEAN SOURCE, CANADIAN DELEGATION IN FACT CAME UPON DUAL MISSION: A) TO SEEK GUINEAN AGREEMENT TO CONCLUDE BILATERAL INVESTMENT TREATY AND B) TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON A CANADIAN ORANT AID PROJECT. CANADIANS WERE APPARENTLY UNDER MISAPPREHENSION THAT GOG HAD ALREADY CONCLUDED BILATERAL INVESTMENT AGREEMENT WITH USG. THEY ASKED GUINEANS AFOR SIMILAR AGREEMENT,
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AND WERE DISMAYED WHEN GOG TURNED THEM DOWN. GUINEAN MINISTER OF

FINANCE, ISMAEL TOURE, WHO IS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY STUDY OF CONAKRY PORT UNDERTAKEN BY CANADIAN FIRM DYNAM AND FINANCED BY CIDA, REPORTEDLY SYMPATHIZED WITH CANADIAN CONCERN OVER THE \$125 MILLION CANADIAN INVESTMENT IN GUINEA (ALCAN AND NORANDA) BUT REGRETTED THAT GOG COULD NOT SIGN TREATY DURING DELEGATION VISIT.

3. CANADIAN ASSISTANCE PROJECT (PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED WITH GUINEANS) INVOLVES FURNISHING OUTBOARD MOTORS TO GUINEA "MECHANIZED FISHING BRIGADES". GOG APPARENTLY THOUGHT IT HAD CANADIAN PROMISE TO FURNISH 1000 SUCH MOTORS. DURING CURRENT VISIT, CANADIAN'S TALKED OF SCALING DOWN GRANT (AT LEAST DURING FIRST STATE OF PROJECT) TO 200 MOTORS. GUINEAN'S RECEIVED IMPRESSION THAT CANADIANS WERE LINKING THIS AID PROJECT TO GOG ACCEPTANCE OF INVESTMENT TREATY. AS RESULT, DELEGATION LEFT CONAKRY WITH LITTLE ACCOMPLISHED AND WITH SOME FEELING OF RESENTMENT ON GUINEAN SIDE. UNDERSTAND SEKOU TOURE TOLD THEM IN IRRITATION THAT GUINEANS CAUGHT FISH WITHOUT HELP OF CANADIAN MOTORS AND COULD CONTINUE TO DO SO.

4. COMMENT: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION EMBASSY OTTAWA CAN DEVELOP ON THIS VISIT AND ON STATUS CANADIAN-GUINEAN RELATIONS IN GENERAL. GOG STILL BELIEVES IT HAS CANADIAN PROMISE TO HELP WORK OUT FINANCING FOR TRANSGUINEAN RAILROAD, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE HEARD LESS ABOUT THIS PROJECT IN RECENT MONTHS. WE ARE PUZZLED THAT CANADIAN DELEGATION DID NOT CONTACT US EMBASSY PARTICULARLY SINCE NORANDA MAKES POINT OF CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH USG AND ALCAN IS INVOLVED IN CBG BAUXITE JOINT VENTURES WITH ALCOA AND MARTIN MARIETTA. ON FUTURE VISITS EMBASSY WOULD BE PLEASED TO CONSULT WITH CANADIAN DELEGATIONS, AND COULD BE HELPFUL TO THEM SINCE GOG HAS NO REPRESENTATION IN CONAKRY.
HARROP

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